

REMARKS

Claims 2 – 5, 26, and 27 are pending in the present Application. Claims 1 – 4, 26, and 27 have been allowed, and Claim 27 has merely been amended to place it in independent form, leaving Claims 5 for consideration. Reconsideration and allowance of Claim 5 are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Allegedly, the term “translatably disposed” is of uncertain meaning. (Office Action dated 09/22/06, hereinafter OA 09/06, page 3). Applicants respectfully disagree. Claim 5 reads: “The system according to Claim 4, further comprising a float translatably disposed in the fluid containment vessel.” In other words, the float is capable of translating in the vessel. For example, referring to Paragraph [0031]:

Optional float 64 is loosely positioned within the body portion of containment vessel 36. The buoyancy of float 64 *enables float 64 to translate* between the upper portion 50 and the lower portion 52 of the containment vessel 36 as the level of liquid within the vessel varies. Float 64 is preferably fabricated of polypropylene and is molded into a shape having outer *dimensions that are conducive to the uninhibited translation between the upper portion 50 and lower portion 52*. The shape and outer dimensions of float 64 may be complementary to the shape and inner dimensions of the body portion of containment vessel 36. The float(s) can be employed in conjunction with the load cell 54, 60 (as a primary or back-up system) or the load cell(s) can eliminate the float(s).

(*emphasis added*) As would be clearly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art, Claim 5 claims a float that is capable of translating in the vessel, i.e., it is “translatably disposed” within the vessel. Since the language of the claim is clear and definite, the claim meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Hence, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

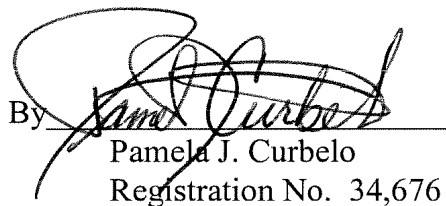
It is believed that the foregoing remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the case are respectfully requested.

If there are any remaining issues with the present case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned to facilitate discussions of the issues and allowance of the case.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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